

AS

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 97-265-C - ORDER NO. 97-698
AUGUST 11, 1997

IN RE: Request of Fort Mill Telephone Company) ORDER
for an Implementation Plan for 1+) APPROVING
IntraLATA Equal Access (IntraLATA Toll) PLAN
Dialing Parity).)

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Fort Mill Telephone Company (Fort Mill or the Company) for approval of an implementation plan for 1+ IntraLATA Equal Access. According to the Company, with this change, the Company's end users will be allowed to select their long distance carrier for the transport of their 1+ intraLATA toll calls. Fort Mill proposes to recover the cost of implementing intraLATA equal access through a discrete access charge additive, to be paid by its access service customer and Fort Mill Telephone Company.

Although Fort Mill originally planned a August 8, 1997 implementation date, it discovered potential problems with preparing its central office switch for the implementation of intraLATA equal access. Certain modifications to the central office switch are necessary. Fort Mill now proposes that, once these changes are made, Fort Mill will establish a new implementation date which will allow all interexchange carriers

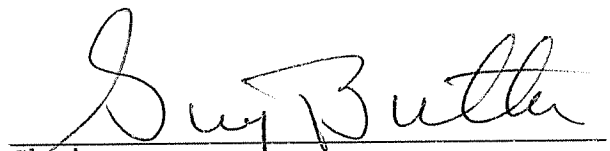
which had indicated a desire to offer 1+ intraLATA services in Fort Mill's territory 30 days notice of implementation. According to the Company, it has discussed this proposal with those interexchange carriers interested in participation, and the carriers are supportive of the modified proposal.

The Commission's Executive Director directed the Company to publish, one time, in a newspaper of general circulation details of the proposal, and methods for members of the public to intervene in the matter and/or express opinions. No Petitions to Intervene or protests were received.

We have examined the proposal as submitted by Fort Mill and we conclude that the Company's proposal should be adopted, as modified. Fort Mill's customers should have the benefits of equal access. We believe that the Company's proposal, as modified, will fairly and equitably provide those benefits.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)